**Pennsylvania Comprehensive Literacy Plan**

May 14, 2012 Report to the Board

Written by reading specialists, university professors, curriculum and instruction specialists, the regional coordinator of Federal programs, early childhood experts and staff development and training specialists

**Five Guiding Principles:**

1. Literacy as a critical foundation
2. Culture and learning
3. Meeting the needs of all students
4. Evidenced-based instruction
5. High-quality teaching (“Having a high-quality teacher throughout elementary school can substantially offset or even eliminate the disadvantage of low socioeconomic background.” (Casey, 2004, p.5, quoting Rivkin, Hanushek and Kain, 2000))
   1. Job embedded professional development must be an integral part of every school’s comprehensive literacy planning
   2. Teachers must have opportunities to self-reflect, and work with their colleagues as a means of improving the whole school
   3. “Professional learning is the cornerstone for strengthening the capacity of educators and building learning communities to deliver high literacy standards for every child.”
   4. “Professional learning must become the school’s top priority.”

